Cerberus
Gantz Waiting Room
Offtopia
ENXAME

ENXAME

The Servants

scan by : morjen
translator : Coffhem
cleaner: mieze
editor: morjen

シュービアリア・クロス

Superior ichtys

イクシス

絶対に好きになってはならない相手に恋をした。

次第に深まる想いを秘め、勇者と魔王の旅は続く…。

シュービアリア・クロス Superior ichtys 2

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SQUARE ENIX.

魔王と勇者はお互いの恋心を胸の裡に秘め、旅を続けていた

魔王の正体を怪しんだ王子は、密使に魔王を探らせるが

確証が掴めないまま、処分は保留となった。

やがて勇者と旅を続ける一行に、次々と問題が起こり始め ・。

さらに深まりゆく報われない恋物語、大注目の第2巻!!

魔王シーラ

並外れた力を持つ魔物で、いつしか魔王と呼ばれる存在になる。魔王であることは勇者や仲間たちには秘密。

勇者エクサ

魔物を討伐するべき勇者でありながら、魔王以外の生き物は殺さないと誓う。剣技だけでなく魔法も使うことができる。

ロッシ

「シーラが魔王であれば暗殺せよ」という密命をシュノー王子より受け、勇者の旅に同行するが、まだ確証は掴めていない。

「シュービアリア・クロス」は、
月刊Gファンタジー（毎月18日発売）にて、大人気連載中!

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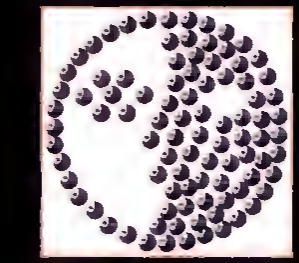

ichtys

シュピクロも2巻です！
支えて下さる皆様に感謝です！

2

シュービアリア・クロス

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2
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やがて勇者と旅を続ける一行に、次々と問題が起こり始め‥。

さらに深まりゆく報われない恋物語、大注目の第2巻!!

G FANTASY GFC COMICS

既刊好評発売中

ぱにぽに 1〜13 氷川へきる
公式ガイドブック ぱにぽに 1〜3
新居覚悟し系魔法少女ペポイミちゃん 1〜2 氷川へきる
ZOMBIE-LOAN 1〜12 PEACH-PIT
龍の王 1〜12 楠谷祐希
リベラメンテ 鎌谷悠希短編集 楠谷祐希
カミヨミ 1〜11 柴田亜佑
PandoraHearts 1〜11 望月 淳
Crimson-Shall 全1巻 望月 淳
黒執事 1〜8 枢 やな
Rust Blaster 全1巻 枢 やな
キューティクル探偵因幡 1〜5 もち
まじかる張夏天使 突き調せ!!呂布子ちゃん 1〜5 鈴木次郎
うみねこのなく頃に 1〜2 竜騎士07・鈴木次郎
ひぐらしのなく頃に 祭殺し編 全2巻 竜騎士07・鈴木次郎
ひぐらしのなく頃に 祟殺し編 全2巻 竜騎士07・みもり
ひぐらしのなく頃に 業 当殺し編 1〜4 竜騎士07 後山なせ
龍龍学級 1〜4 真柴 真
シュピアリア・クロス 1〜2 ichtys
デュラララ!! 1 成田梅梅・茶農木明代
10-4 1 栗芝真己
白黒奇龍 1 楠りんか
E'S新装版 全16巻 結賀さとる
switch 全13巻 naked ape
龍のクルースニク 全6巻 岩佐あきらこ
ToHeart2 -colorful note- 全5巻 さたうみつな
Diabolic Garden 全3巻 白木 苺
新装版 地球へ… 全3巻 竹宮恵子
新装版 ファラオの龍 全4巻 竹宮梅子
新装版 アンドロメダ・ストーリーズ 全2巻 竹宮梅子
地球へ 〜青き光芒のキース〜 全2巻 林ふみの
デリヤキウエスタン 史上最強の無法都市 全2巻 楠木かなこ
トリフィルファンタジア 全2巻 楠麻みゆき
春期限定いちごタルト事件 1〜4 米澤穂信・酉原屋籠子

●品切れの時は本屋さんに注文して下さい

月刊Gファンタジー 毎月18日発売

YOUR FORTUNE FOR THE DAY.

A - TYPE

YOU'RE GONNA SLIP
ON A BANANA PEEL,
BUT QUITE MIRACULOUSLY,
YOU WON'T FALL OFF

B - TYPE

A PAIR OF JERSEY TROUSERS
WILL FALL ON THE ROAD
AFTER IT'S RAINED,
AND YOU'LL WITNESS IT.

ICHTYS SAW SOMETHING SIMILAR,
A LONG TIME AGO.

シュールリアリスト

ichtys

2

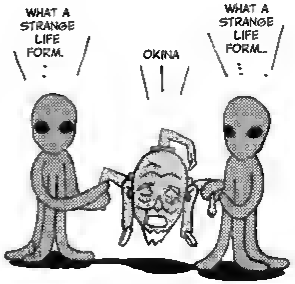
SQUARE ENIX

O - TYPE

YOU WILL DREAM ABOUT
BUMPING YOUR TOE INTO
YOUR DRESSER.

AB - TYPE

ALIENS WILL ABDUCT YOU.



...NOT. JUST KIDDING. A GOOD DAY TO EVERYONE.

SQUARE ENIX

Superior Contents

Story 5 [illegible] friend □Part 2□ 3
Story 6 [illegible] friend □Part 3□ 49
Story 7 A Magical Course in Dread 97
Story 8 Rocci [illegible] 1□ 149

OUT OF MY WAY, GODDAMN BRAT!!
C... CLIVE...? YOU OKAY...?
YOU JUST COME OUT OF NO-WHERE GRABBING MY LEG WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!
DANG IT! MY CLOTHES ARE ALL STAINED NOW!
ぐぅ
たたっ

EVERYTHING HAS A RIGHT TO LIVE. EVEN IF IT'S NOT PRETTY, OR IF IT LIVES IN DARKNESS.
EVEN ME. AND YOU...

Story.5 親友(中編)

I MUST KILL LAKSHRI ...
YES...
I HAVE A GOOD REASON TO WANT HIM DEAD.
CLIVE...

YOU TURN OUT TO BE THE MONSTER, THEN..?!
CLIVE! STOP IT..!!

HE DOESN'T RESPOND TO MY VOICE...
CAN'T HE UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING...?
CLIVE... I'M SORRY...
I'M GONNA HAVE TO KNOCK YOU DOWN. !!

HE'S UN-SCATHED AFTER THAT..?!
WHOA!

ゴゴ…!
OOHWW.
I
I'M SAVED
BUT THAT
WAS A LOSE
CALL.
バギッ
バギッ
バギッ

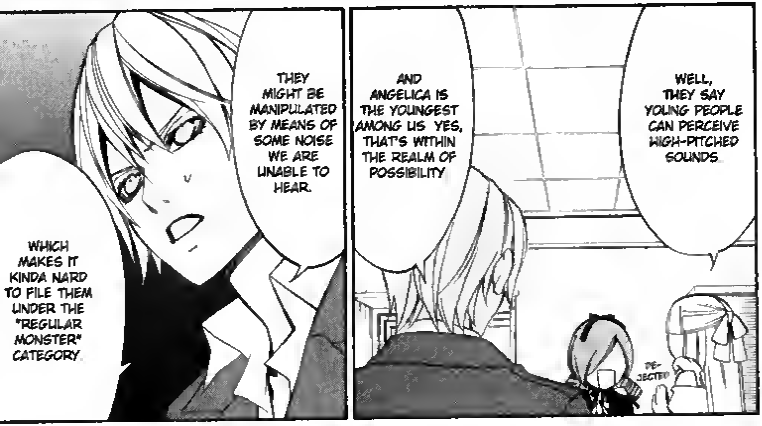
YOU GOTTA BE... KIDDING ME...
QUICK BEFORE HE CAN SEE ME
HE'S GOTTEN REALLY TOUGH, HE HAS
!?

I HAVE SOME ESCAPE ROUTES EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT
IT WAS A NARROW ESCAPE, THOUGH LITERALLY
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME...
DON'T...
SFX: WHISTLING SOUND.

NOT AGAIN ..!
WHAT CRAZY REFLEXES !!
たんっ
EH..!
AH! WAIT UP..!!
HM..?!
LAKSHRI'S FRIEND..!!

WHERE IN THE WORLD DID THAT MONSTER GO TO...?!
NO. I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER.
WELL... I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, LAK-SHRI...?
WHAT? FOUR MONSTERS, YOU SAY...?
OPERATING UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE OF THEM WAS A MISTAKE, APPARENTLY...
AM I THE ONLY ONE?
EH? I DIDN'T HEAR ANY-THING
SOMEWHAT DISTURBING, TOO...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR SOME KIND OF NOISE? A VOICE, OR SOME-THING
NEXT THING WE KNEW, THEY RE-TREATED IN A JIFFY. WHAT GIVES?

A BUG?!
I DON'T THINK IT SOUNDED ANYTHING LIKE A MOSQUITO!
MY FAVORITE DISH!
A BUZZING MOSQUITO, PERHAPS


THEY MIGHT BE MANIPULATED BY MEANS OF SOME NOISE WE ARE UNABLE TO HEAR.
WHICH MAKES IT KINDA HARD TO FILE THEM UNDER THE "REGULAR MONSTER" CATEGORY.
AND ANGELICA IS THE YOUNGEST AMONG US. YES, THAT'S WITHIN THE REALM OF POSSIBILITY.
WELL, THEY SAY YOUNG PEOPLE CAN PERCEIVE HIGH-PITCHED SOUNDS.
RE-JECT!!

NO NOTHING.
COME AGAIN ?
BODILY POTENTIAL ACTIVATION
MUMBLE

ANYWAY I HAVE NO IDEA IF THEY'LL SHOW UP TOMORROW, BUT WE'LL KEEP AN EYE OUT
YES SIR.
UNDER-STOOD
WHAT A PAIN -NYA
.....
I DON'T LIKE THE GUY

ULTIMATELY, I WAS UNABLE TO SAY A WORD ABOUT CLIVE...
HOW COULD I MENTION THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABDUCTIONS WAS MY OWN BEST FRIEND ...?

THE OTHER 4 ARE PRESUMABLY HUMAN, TOO...

BUT... HOW DID HE GET TO TURN INTO THAT MONSTROUS FORM?
AND WHATEVER I SAID IT JUST DIDN'T SEEM TO REGISTER...

ASSUMING IT'S TRUE, I SHOULD LET EXA KNOW ABOUT IT.
BUT EXA WOULDN'T KILL THEM, EVEN IF THEY WEREN'T HUMAN...
SO I'D RATHER KEEP THAT TO MYSELF FOR THE MOMENT
AND HELP CLIVE OUT IN THE MEANTIME...
BUT HOW..?
DOES HE EVEN WANT TO BE SAVED, IN THE FIRST PLACE?
IF I TALK TO HIM... AND IT DOESN'T GET THROUGH
IF HE WANTS TO KILL ME SO BADLY HE WON'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY...

STAAAARE
GLIMP
WILL I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO END HIS LIFE..?
WHAT IS IT?
EEHE-EHEE... YOU NOTICED?
WHAT WITH ALL THE STARING...
STEP STEP
AWKWARD SILENCE
.....
AH! I GOT A HANG-NAIL
.....
YOU GOT SOME-THING TO SAY?
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
OH CRAP
HA! I HAD NOTHING SPECIAL IN MIND..!!
.....

ER.. ARE YOU OKAY?
DON'T "YOU OKAY" ME
ARE YOU FINE OR WHAT?! SAY SOMETHING!
PEEVED
SNAP
OW
WHAT ARE YOU ANGRY FOR?
THE BLOKE WHO USED TO BE MY BEST FRIEND HATES ME, AND HE CONTEMPLATES THE IDEA OF BUMPING ME OFF
OF COURSE I CAN'T BE FINE...
YOU AREN'T THE KIND OF GUY PEOPLE GET TO HATE...
.....

SURE
YEAH, I FIGURED
YEAH
DO YOU THINK SO ...?
HEY... WATCH IT...
GASP
BECAUSE YOU'RE A BIG IDIOT
YOU AREN'T SLICK ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING UNDERHANDED WHAT WOULD ANYONE HATE YOU FOR?
CONTRARY, BUT ACTUALLY VERY KIND
YOU'RE A PAIN IN THE BUM, BUT ALSO THE BEST FRIEND ONE CAN HAVE, I THINK

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING HAPPENING TO HIM.
SOMETHING HE DOESN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT TO ANYONE, NOT EVEN YOU
SO DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF
THINK POSITIVE, AND SURELY SOMETHING WILL COME OUT OF IT.
COME ON IM FINE
REPEAT AFTER ME
IIII AAAAM FIINE.
IIII AAAAM FIINE.
IIIII'M FI...
YEAH... I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...
BUT LIM... IF YOU'RE GONNA PRAISE AND COMFORT ME, CAN'T YOU BE A BIT MORE HONEST ABOUT IT?
CHUCKLE

AH I SEE
CASUAL
NOT HAPPENING. CAUSE YOUR USUAL BEHAVIOUR IS JUST THAT PLAIN BAD.
BUT WELL... I'M FEELING BETTER SOMEHOW. THANK YOU.
I CALL IT PAY-BACK.
HEEBY! WHAT THA HEEBEL!
MUST BE GREAT TO BE SO SIMPLE-MINDED!
SHE'S RIGHT... HE MUST HAVE SOME KIND OF PROBLEM.
AND HE CAN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THOSE DIS-APPEARANCES EITHER.
MAN UP... CLIVE USED TO BE A NICE GUY, DIDN'T HE?
I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN HIM. AND HE NEEDS MY HELP...

LET'S GO SEE HIM
SPEAK TO HIM AGAIN
AND
MY SWORD
WON'T LEAVE
ITS SCABBARD,
NO MATTER
WHAT...
ハァ?

すう…
DOCTOR!!

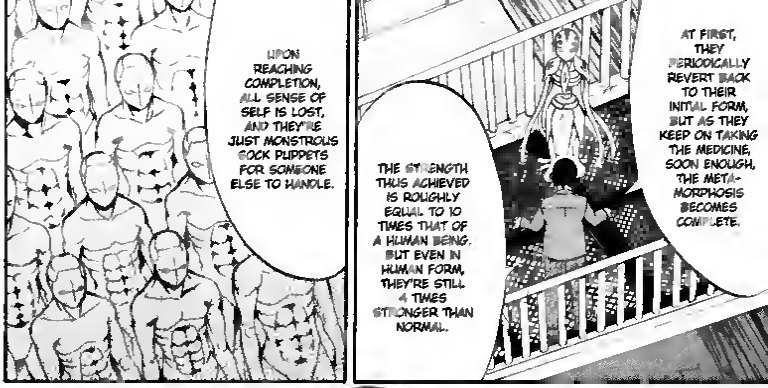
SO HE CAN PICK UP MY PRESENCE FROM THAT FAR AWAY...
IS THAT SO..? LET'S GET YOU SOME STRONGER STUFF, THEN!

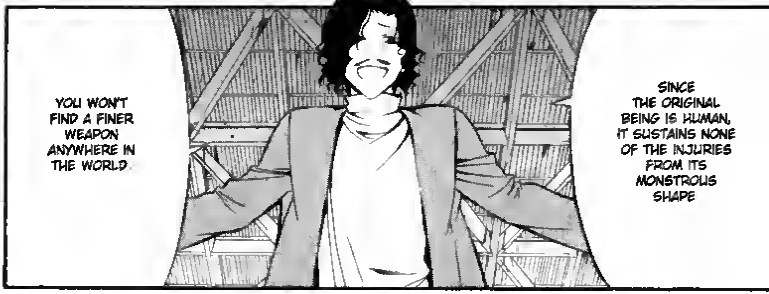
THE MEDICINE ISN'T WORKING ANYMORE!

CERTAINLY NOT...
DOCTOR... I'M GONNA LOSE MY SENSE OF SELF AT THIS RATE, AREN'T I...?
I CAN TELL... HE ISN'T TELLING ME THE TRUTH...
U... GH
I'M FALLING DOWN...
TUMBLING INTO UTTER DARKNESS...

...TO TAKING OVER EVERYTHING I AM.
THE LONGER IT GOES ON, THE CLOSER THIS MONSTER GETS...
I NEED TO END LAKSHRI'S LIFE...
...BEFORE THAT GETS TO HAPPEN...!!

AM I STILL ATTACHED... TO THE OLD MIOU-SAMA?
GO AHEAD... THEY ARE YOUR TOOLS TO USE, AFTER ALL...
I'LL BE BORROWING THEM AGAIN...
THIS DRUG ENHANCES ONE'S PHYSICAL POTENTIAL AND RESTORES ANY LOST FACULTIES.
THEN EVENTUALLY... BODILY CHEMISTRY GOES TO HELL...
...AND TRANSFORMATION INTO A MONSTER ENSUES


UPON REACHING COMPLETION, ALL SENSE OF SELF IS LOST, AND THEY'RE JUST MONSTROUS ROCK PUPPETS FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO HANDLE.
THE STRENGTH THUS ACHIEVED IS ROUGHLY EQUAL TO 10 TIMES THAT OF A HUMAN BEING. BUT EVEN IN HUMAN FORM, THEY'RE STILL 4 TIMES STRONGER THAN NORMAL.
AT FIRST, THEY PERIODICALLY REVERT BACK TO THEIR INITIAL FORM, BUT AS THEY KEEP ON TAKING THE MEDICINE, SOON ENOUGH, THE META-MORPHOSIS BECOMES COMPLETE.


YOU WON'T FIND A FINER WEAPON ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.
SINCE THE ORIGINAL BEING IS HUMAN, IT SUSTAINS NONE OF THE INJURIES FROM ITS MONSTROUS SHAPE

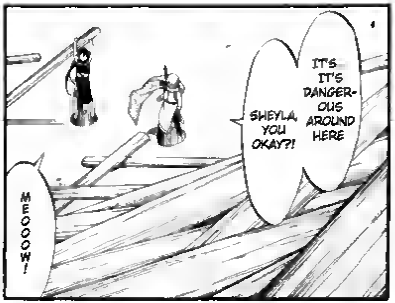
BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T MIND? CONSIDERING YOU'RE HUMAN, TOO...
YES. THEY'RE MAGNIFICENT INDEED.
THESE WORDS ARE THE GREATER REWARD I COULD EVER HOPE FOR.

YOU SEE, IN THIS WORLD SOME PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF JUST ENJOY TO BE CONTRARY...
FEEL FREE TO WIPE OUT HUMANITY, FOR ALL I CARE...
WHAT HAPPENED TO LAKSHRI?!
I DON'T WANNA CAUSE HIM ANY TROUBLE
SAID HE'D GET SOME REST! HE'S FEELING BETTER, BUT HE'S NOT EXACTLY BACK AT FULL STRENGTH!
WAIT A MINUTE... THERE'S ONLY ONE OF THEM, TODAY...?

AYE!
AAAH, NEVER MIND! WE GOTTA CAPTURE IT!!
AN ABANDONED FACTORY...?
WHERE'D HE GO...?
!!?

ガラガラ

ANGELICA! ROCCII! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!


IT'S... IT'S DANGER-OUS AROUND HERE
SHEYLA, YOU OKAY?!
MEOOOW!

ガラ
THING IS... WE'VE GOT NO WAY TO GO, NOW... WE NEED TO JOIN UP WITH THE GIRLS...

I'M OKAY!
WE'RE FINE! ROCCI AND I ARE BOTH UNHARMED! WHAT ABOUT YOU, EXA-SAMA?!

MONSTERS NOW OF ALL TIMES
!!?
WHOAAAAAH!!

HERO!!
IF HE SO MUCH AS SMILED, I'D STILL DAMN HIM FOR IT
I HATE LAKSHRI SO MUCH... SO MUCH I JUST CAN'T HELP IT...

ONCE I KILL HIM ...
I'LL CARVE HIM TO PIECES AND ERASE EVERY SINGLE TRACE OF HIM FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH

THAT'S HOW MUCH I HATE HIM....
I THOUGHT YOU'D COME... HAVE YOU CLEARED AWAY YOUR DOUBTS?

.....
HA
BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T KILL ME...
ピチャ
YOU WILL DIE BY MY HAND...
GOT IT?!

TSK...
DRAW YOUR SWORD !!
NO...
I WON'T !
AREN'T YOU READY TO FIGHT AND KILL?

I'M HERE TO HELP YOU!
HAH..!
CLIVE... WHAT IS IT YOU'RE TRANS-FORMING INTO..?
JUST WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU WHILE I WASN'T LOOKING..?
.....
YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW.

UNDER THAT OTHER FORM, YOU COULDN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING I SAID
.....
ARE THE OTHER 4 HUMAN, TOO ?
.....
DID YOU KIDNAP THOSE PEOPLE?
.....
WHY, THEN ..?!!
.....
WHY, YOU ASK...
.....

I...
HEY, LAKSHRI. REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE KIDS?
DIDN'T YOU EVER ASK YOURSELF WHY THE WORLD HAD TO BE SO UNFAIR...?
.....
A GUY LIKE ME HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO LIVE HIS LIFE LIKE THE PIECE OF TRASH HE IS.
SCUM I AM. FOREVER SCUM I'LL REMAIN...

DOOMED TO LIVE DEEP IN THE ABYSS ALWAYS ENVYING ALL THAT IS LIGHT...
THAT MUCH IS NOT GONNA CHANGE, IT'S STILL TRUE TO THIS DAY...

ALL THE TIME SINCE YOU LEFT, I SPENT IT IN THE DARK...
UNLIKE YOU, MOST PEOPLE CAN'T GO AGAINST WHATEVER FATE HAD IN STORE FOR THEM SINCE THE DAY THEY WERE BORN.
ALL OF IT...
SINCE I'D LOST MY RIGHT HAND, IT WAS ONLY FAIR FOR ME TO CRUSH EVERYONE ELSE'S RIGHT HANDS IN KIND!
THEN AT SOME POINT, I REALIZED.
HA
THAT'S RIGHT TO ACHIEVE THIS, I NEEDED POWER.

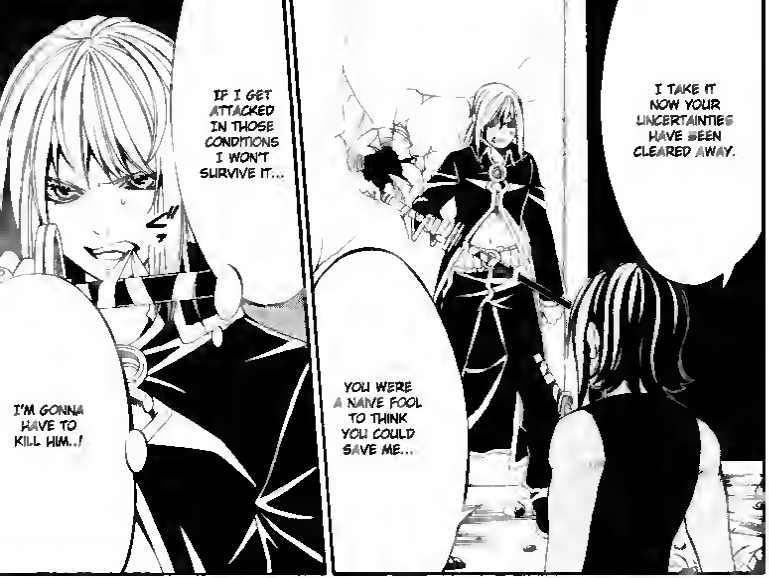
ONLY THROUGH POWER CAN THIS WORLD EVER ACHIEVE EQUITY!
YOU'RE WRONG..!!
SOME DAY, WHEN THE TIME WAS COME FOR THE LAST BATTLE, THESE MONSTERS WILL ENGAGE HUMANITY IN COMBAT.
PARENTS AGAINST THEIR CHILDREN. FRIENDS AGAINST THEIR FRIENDS. BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THEY WILL ALL BE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS

THAT'LL BE THE MOST ENTERTAINING SPECTACLE EVER, DON'T YOU AGREE..?
CLIVE...!!

HAH!! NOW YOU KNOW MY MOTIVE...
WHAT? YOU THOUGHT I'D BEEN FORCED INTO THIS FORM AND MADE TO GO KIDNAP PEOPLE?
DID YOU EXPECT ME TO GO "SAVE ME LAKSHRI-CHAN" SO YOU COULD GO ON AND HAVE YOUR MUSHY HAPPY ENDING?
STARTLE
GET FUCKING REAL!
I KIDNAPPED THOSE PEOPLE WILLINGLY AND I HELPED MAKE THEM THAT WAY!
AND THIS IS WHAT I, TOO, WILL BECOME MYSELF!!

AND WE'LL DROWN THE WORLD IN A TIDE OF DISASTER AND DEATH!!
STOP IT...! I DON'T WANNA KILL YOU...!
DESTROY EVERY-THING...!!
THAT'S RIGHT... LET'S BREAK IT ALL APART!
YOU WON'T KILL ME IN SPITE OF EVERY-THING...?
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
AH!

AAAAAAAAAAH!
I'LL WREAK EVEN MORE HAVOC UPON THE WORLD, YOU KNOW..?


I TAKE IT NOW YOUR UNCERTAINTIES HAVE BEEN CLEARED AWAY.
YOU WERE A NAIVE FOOL TO THINK YOU COULD SAVE ME...
IF I GET ATTACKED IN THOSE CONDITIONS I WON'T SURVIVE IT...
I'M GONNA HAVE TO KILL HIM..!

I MUST ..
...KILL LAKSHRI ...
I HATE HIM SO MUCH...
I HATE HIM TO NO END ...

BECAUSE
...
I HAVE TO DIE
BY HIS HAND...

Story.6 : Best friend □Part 3□

BECAUSE LAKSHRI...
I HAVE TO DIE BY YOUR HAND...

THAT DOESN'T EVEN DESERVE TO LIVE.
WHAT YOU DO HAVE HERE IS A WORTHLESS INSECT.
YOU DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF LUXURY
ABANDON THE IDEA THAT I'M YOUR FRIEND, OR THAT YOU CAN SAVE ME.
...IF YOU ACT IN LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENSE.
IT WON'T BE A CRIME...
YES... THAT'S IT.

KILL ME...
...AND IN SO DOING, PLEASE SAVE ME..!!

...DO I STILL HAVE TO KILL CLIVE WITH MY VERY OWN HANDS ?!!
CLIVE WAS HURT BECAUSE OF MY CHRONIC IMMATURITY BACK THEN.
EVEN NOW I'M STRONG ENOUGH NOT TO NEED ANYBODY ELSE'S PROTECTION.

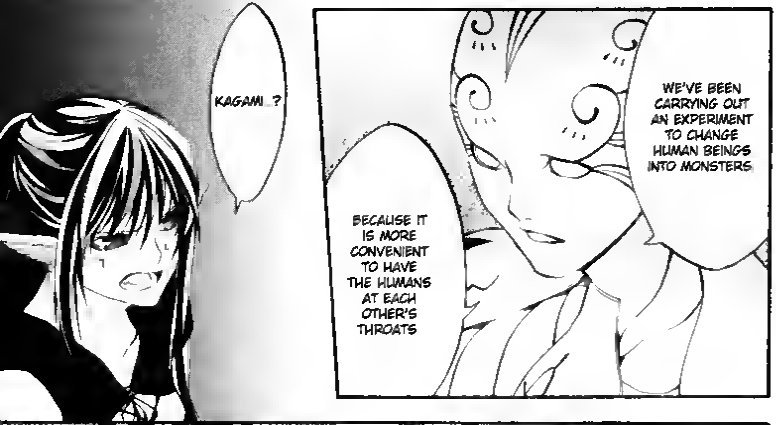
YOU MUST BE THE INVEST-IGATORS. YOU'RE LATE... DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW LONG I'VE BEEN WAITING..?
VALENTIN-DONO, I PRESUME ...?
MAY I INQUIRE JUST WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, EXACTLY?
.....
THE MEN... HAVE BEEN KILLED.

THE INN THEY STAYED AT AND THE REST OF THE TOWN HAVE BEEN OBLITERATED OVERNIGHT, APPARENTLY
BY A SILVER-HAIRED GIRL WHO STYLES HERSELF THE DEMON LORD...
WHAT...?
ARE YOU TELLING ME AN ENTIRE TOWN HAS BEEN WIPED OUT BY ONE PERSON ALONE?!

HERO...!!
!!
!!?

KA.
ミカ!
KAGAMI..?!
すう?

!?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? WE THOUGHT WE WERE DEALING WITH MONSTERS, BUT THEY TURN OUT TO BE HUMAN..?!


KAGAMI ?
WE'VE BEEN CARRYING OUT AN EXPERIMENT TO CHANGE HUMAN BEINGS INTO MONSTERS
BECAUSE IT IS MORE CONVENIENT TO HAVE THE HUMANS AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS

MAOU-SAMA I'VE BEEN ABIDING BY EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOUR ORDERS SO FAR
OUT OF THE BELIEF THAT YOU'D KILL OFF THE HERO SOMEDAY
EXCEPT YOU NEVER DID. ON THE CONTRARY, YOU'VE BEEN PROTECTING AND DEFENDING HIM.

BECAUSE YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM
BECAUSE OF SUCH A TRIFLING EMOTION
OF COURSE I DIDN'T..!

OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T..?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE YOU IN THOSE CONDITIONS..?
EVEN NOW, YOU SAVED THE HERO YET AGAIN WHEN THEY ATTACKED HIM.
JUST THIS ONCE, I'LL FORGET ABOUT WHAT I SAW TODAY, FOR THE SAKE OF MY PAST LOYALTY TO YOU.
I'LL HAVE EVEN SOMEBODY LIKE HER OVER WHAT YOU'VE BECOME ANY DAY.
I'M CHOOSING THE COPY MAOU-SAMA'S SIDE.
TO SIGNIFY THAT EFFECTIVE TODAY, WE'LL BE GOING OUR SEPARATE WAYS
THAT'S THE REASON WHY I CAME TO YOU, MAOU-SAMA

REST ASSURED THAT THE NEXT TIME WE MEET
...
...WILL BE THE MOMENT WHEN I TAKE YOUR LIFE
!!

!
HA
EXA-SAMA ..!!
EXA-SAMA!!
HE'S MERELY PASSED OUT, THANK GOOD-NESS...
PEOPLE ..?!
THIS IS... THE MONSTERS' TRUE FORM...

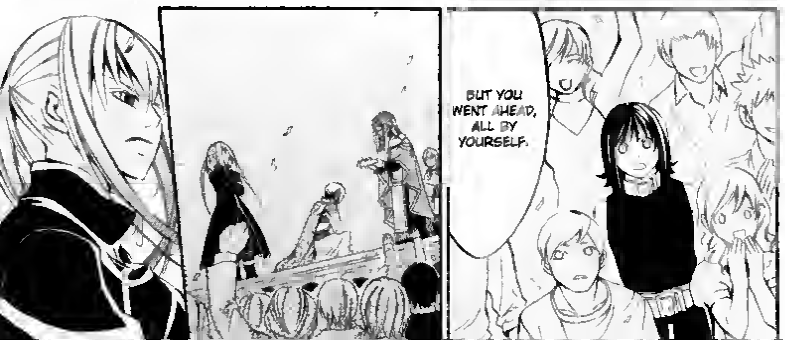
I'M SORRY... THE HERO TOLD ME NOT TO HURT PEOPLE, AND YET...
I'M SORRY...
I AM SORRY...
IT'S ALRIGHT. HE'S WOUNDED, BUT NOTHING THAT CAN'T BE HANDLED WITH PROPER MEDICAL CARE.
YOU WERE TRYING TO PROTECT EXA-SAMA, WEREN'T YOU..?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE...

.....
GHEEEE?
HUH...?!

WHY WON'T YOU KILL ME...?
I ASK YOU THE SAME QUESTION.
カランカラン

THE PERIODS BETWEEN MY LAPSES OF CONSCIOUSNESS HAVE BEEN GETTING SHORTER AND SHORTER.
LATELY...
SURE AS HELL, I'M BECOMING MORE AND MORE OF A MONSTER...

STRANGELY ENOUGH, I NEVER RESENTED YOU FOR THE LOSS OF MY RIGHT HAND
I STILL MEANT TO PROTECT YOU REGARDLESS
JUST LIKE I'D BEEN DOING SO FAR.


BUT YOU WENT AHEAD, ALL BY YOURSELF.

I WAS PROUD.
BUT I COULDN'T HELP FEELING MISERABLE FOR BEING UNABLE TO ESCAPE FROM HERE MYSELF
AND GRADUALLY, THE FACT THAT MY HAND COULDN'T MOVE STARTED TO WEIGH DOWN ON ME.
THAT'S WHEN I MET HIM.
HE WHISPERED HIS HONEYED WORDS TO ME...
I CAN HELP YOU FIX YOUR HAND.
IN EXCHANGE, I WOULD LIKE TO AVAIL MYSELF OF YOUR COOPERATION.
I CAN TELL...
I DIDN'T LOSE TO THE WORLD'S ABSURDITY OR EGOISM
I LOST TO NO ONE BUT MYSELF.

I'LL KEEP ON KILLING PEOPLE, AND PUTTING THEM THROUGH WHAT I'M GOING THROUGH MYSELF.
AND I'VE ALREADY COME PAST THE POINT OF NO-RETURN, BY NOW.
LAKSHRI... IF I STAND BEFORE YOU NOW, IT'S BECAUSE WANT YOU TO KILL ME.
SORRY FOR BEING SUCH A SAD EXCUSE OF AN ADOPTIVE BROTHER.
IF I MUST DIE BY SOMEBODY'S HAND, I WANT IT TO BE YOURS.

BUT EVEN WITH ALL MY PROVOCATIONS AND ATTEMPTS ON YOUR LIFE
NO MATTER WHAT I DID, YOU WOULDN'T RAISE YOUR SWORD AGAINST ME. I GIVE UP.
DO YOU REMEMBER THAT DAY?
THE ONE WHEN YOU SPENT YOUR REQUEST OF A LIFETIME ON A MERE APPLE.
!

WELL, I STILL HAVEN'T USED MY OWN...
STOP..! DON'T SAY IT..!!
ス ニ ッ

I WANT YOU...
TO KILL ME...

QUICKLY YOU'VE GOT TO HURRY, OR I'LL BE TAKEN OVER AGAIN
NO... I WANT TO SAVE YOU!!
I DON'T WANNA KILL MORE PEOPLE OR PUT THEM THROUGH WHAT I'M GOING THOUGH..!!
I WANNA HELP YOU OUT.

PLEASE...
...I WANT TO...

KILL ME!!!
...SAVE YOU..!!!

ANYWAY, LET'S HEAD FOR THE HERO'S INN.
HE MIGHT NOT BE AROUND, THOUGH, WHAT WITH THE INVEST-IGATION...
WHAT'S THAT?!
GAAAAA-AAAAAH!!!
たんたんたん
LAKSHRI?! I JUST HEARD THAT EAR-SPLITTING CRY...

SORRY... I LET HIM GET AWAY...
THAT'S ONE SERIOUS WOUND...
EH..?
I CAN'T... POSSIBLY KILL HIM...

LOOKS SOLID ENOUGH. IF A BIT OLD... HEY, THERE'S PLENTY OF JUNK FALLING OFF IT.
APPLES, APPARENTLY.
WE WERE ABLE TO GET A MERCHANT TO LEND US THIS COACH.
WE ACTED A BIT PRECIPITOUSLY. THEY MUST HAVE DROPPED OFF DURING THE CONFUSION. SHALL WE CLEAN UP THE MESS?
ガルル
WHAT?! THE MISSING PEOPLE THEMSELVES MIGHT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS..?!
AAH! HERO WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE? WE'VE PUT THEM IN CHAINS JUST AS YOU ASKED, ANYWAY...
HUUUHH?
NAH, TOO MUCH TROUBLE JUST DROP IT.
NOW WE KNOW WHAT TO EAT IF WE GET HUNGRY.
SAY WHAT ?!
HERO-SAMA. THE MAN WHO CREATED THAT DRUG MIGHT WELL BE SOMEONE I KNOW.
YEAH. THEY TURN INTO MONSTERS BECAUSE OF SOME KIND OF DRUG. AT WHICH POINT THEY CAN BE CONTROLLED THROUGH SOUND, APPARENTLY.

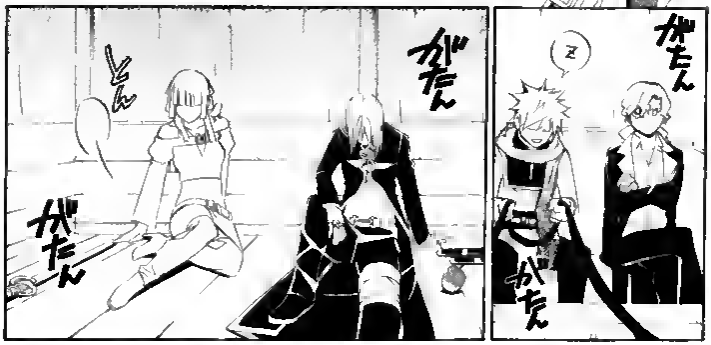
COME WITH US TO THE CASTLE, THEN. WE COULD USE YOUR HELP.
I MERELY CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HIM BACK THERE, SO I COULDN'T SEE HIM PROPERLY BUT CHANCES ARE HIGH.
YES
VAL-ENTIN
HOW ABOUT HAVING DOCTOR RAYNALD CHECK THEM UP?
UNDER-STOOD.
PLEASE...
SURE.
YOU TAKE CARE OF LAKSHRI'S WOUND, TOO.
OW...
DOC SADIST IS GOOD AT WHAT HE DOES, AFTER ALL.
SOUNDS LIKE REALLY HARD WORK. BUT NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR SUCH CONSIDERATIONS I'LL GO ASK HIM

ぱっ
SORRY... THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO GET ME TO SMILE, THIS TIME PLEASE LEAVE ME BE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF INTO IT
YOU WERE RIGHT... CLIVE DID HAVE HIS REASONS...
BRUSH
?
BRUSH
HE'S IN YOUR HANDS, NOW.
BE CAREFUL, YOURSELF, ANGELICA-SAN...

ガラ
ガラガラ……
……
ぽん
OFF WE GO!!
TO HAVE HIS FRIEND TURNED INTO THIS...
IT'S ALRIGHT, ANGELICA LAKSHRI'S A TOUGH GUY
HE'LL GET BETTER. PROBABLY NOT RIGHT AWAY, BUT SOON ENOUGH
THERE'S NO COMING BACK, NOW... I CAN NO LONGER BE THE DEMON LORD...

CAN I...
REALLY HOPE TO LIVE LIKE THIS..?
SHEYLA WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
YOU SHOU-LDN'T BE TOO HARD ON HER.
SHE JUST DID WHAT SHE HAD TO DO TO SAVE YOU

IS THAT SO..? I GOT IT...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ALTHOUGH THIS MEDICINE ACTIVATES THE CELLS...
...THE MORE YOU TAKE IT, THE HARDER YOU CLING TO LIFE, AND YOU BECOME UNABLE TO PUT AN END TO YOUR OWN EXISTENCE EVEN IF YOU WERE TO DIE IN BATTLE
WHY DID HE ASK ME TO KILL HIM...?
WHY DID HE DO THIS?

YOU KEEP FOLLOWING ORDERS THAT GO AGAINST YOUR WILL, BUT EVEN THAT WILL FADE AWAY EVENTUALLY, AND THE ONLY THING LEFT IS A TOOL OF MURDER.
GIVEN NO CHOICE IN ITS COURSE OF ACTION, NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO PUT AN END TO IT.
A FATE... PAINFUL BEYOND WORDS...
PERHAPS HE EXPRESSED THE WISH TO DIE BY YOUR HAND...
BECAUSE HE FELT YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON HE COULD TRUST.

HE'D NEVER BE ABLE TO CASUALLY INFLICT PAIN AND SUFFERING.
HE USED TO BE A KIND FELLOW.
I DON'T WANNA KILL MORE PEOPLE OR PUT THEM THROUGH WHAT I'M GOING THOUGH..!!
AND YET, HE HAD TO PUT UP WITH IT CONSTANTLY AND HE'LL HAVE TO AGAIN..!!

GAAAAAAAAH!!
CLIVE..!!
DESPITE THIS, I CANNOT KILL YOU
KILL ME PLEASE
KUH..!
MOVE..!
HAA
HAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!

...RUN...
A...
WAY...
CLIVE..!!
YOU'RE
CONSCIOUS
..!!
AH!

C...
LI...
VE...

I CANNOT KILL YOU...
ガタン
AKSHAY! I JUST HEARD THAT EAR-SPLITTING CRY...

...NOT AS LONG AS A FRAGMENT OF YOUR HEART REMAINS...

THIS TIME AROUND I WANTED TO SAVE YOU.
EVEN IF I TOLD GOD THAT MY LAST REQUEST OF A LIFETIME DIDN'T COUNT. THAT THIS WAS THE REAL ONE.
EVEN IF I HAD TO SACRIFICE MY LIFE TO DO IT.

EVEN IF I DID ALL THIS...
THAT ONE WISH MIGHT NEVER, EVER BE GRANTED TO ME...

Story.7 恐怖の魔法講座

SHOULD I KEEP ON TRAVELING WITH THE HERO? THAT QUESTION BOTHERS ME.
HOWEVER...
I'VE JUST BEEN NOTIFIED OF MY DISMISSAL.
I AM SHEYLA.
I'M CHOOSING THE COPY MAOU-SAMA'S SIDE.
THE DEMON LORD.

SO WHY AM I DOING THIS..?
I'M GONNA TEACH YOU ABOUT RESTORATION MAGIC
AAH YEAH ANGELICA .. IF ONLY SHE HADN'T DECIDED TO ACT OUT OF THE BLUE, BACK THEN..
IT'S EASY TO LEARN AND YOU CAN PATCH YOURSELF UP, AS WELL AS YOUR FRIENDS IN A HEART-BEAT.
SERIOUS INJURIES ARE RIGHT OUT, HOWEVER. YOU COULD SAFELY DESCRIBE IT AS A MEANS TO ENHANCE THE BODY'S NATURAL ABILITY FOR RECOVERY

WE'VE REACHED THE TOWN EARLIER THAN I EXPECTED.
THE NEXT CITY IS REALLY FAR AHEAD, SO LET'S CALL IT A DAY AND FIND AN INN IN TOWN TO STOP AT.
I'M WONDERING IF LAKSHMI'S GONNA BE OKAY...
I USED MY MAGIC TO HEAL HIS WOUND SOMEWHAT. IT'S HIS STATE OF FATIGUE THAT GOT ME WORRIED, SO I HAD HIM SENT TO THE CASTLE.
HE'LL GET BETTER AND COME BACK TO US SOON ENOUGH, NO DOUBT.
SINCE HE DOESN'T PERFORM ALL THAT GREAT IN THOSE CONDITIONS.

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
!
WO WOOOOOW THESE CLOTHES ARE SO CUTE
EXA-SAMA. CAN I GO HAVE A LOOK..?
WHY, I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE THE TIME TO ANSWER THAT SHE'S ALREADY GONE
OH WELL SHE'S BEEN CONSTANTLY WORRYING ABOUT LAKSHRI A LITTLE CHANGE OF MOOD CANNOT HURT...

EH?! WHEN DID THAT HAPPEN ?!
THAT'S RIGHT SHEYLA, I SAID I'D TEACH YOU ABOUT RESTORATION MAGIC, DIDN'T I?
MEOW
BUT IT'S GONNA TAKE QUITE SOME TIME, APPARENTLY.
HUM
HUM
SO WHAT THE HECK HAVE WE BEEN DOING FOR 9 WHOLE VOLUMES?!
SUPERIOR VOLUME 01, THE FIRST CHAPTER.
WELL... THAT MORE OR LESS EXPLAINS HOW I FOUND MYSELF IN THIS MESS.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN RESTORATION MAGIC IS TO SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OTHER PARTY.

AAAH...
IT'S LIKE, WHEN YOU HAVE WARM FEELINGS FOR SOMEBODY ELSE, OR WHEN YOU HOLD SOMEONE DEAR...
HEY FACE ME!! I SAID I DIDN'T GET IT!
UM... SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OTHER PARTY!?
IT'S ALL CHINESE TO MEOW!
JUMBLED MESS...
HOLD DEAR. HOLD DEAR. WARM FEELINGS...
THINKING ABOUT THE OTHER PARTY...
LET'S GIVE IT A THOUGHT...
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHAT YOU SAY IN YOUR INCANTATION, BUT WORDING DOES HAVE ITS BENEFITS SO HOW ABOUT "HEAL", OR SOMETHING SIMILAR?
OKAY, NEVER MIND LET'S GET DOWN TO PRACTICE
DUH?!
CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG... BUT YOUR MIND WASN'T COMPLETELY ON THE TASK AT HAND, WAS IT?

HE... HELL?
WRONG!!
...COME ON, NOW. LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.
THE WORD'S "HEAL."
ぴた
EEEEER... AHEM SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OTHER PARTY...
NNNGH NNNGH
HOLDING THEM DEAR... AND WARM FOOD...
9 FEET TALL OKINA

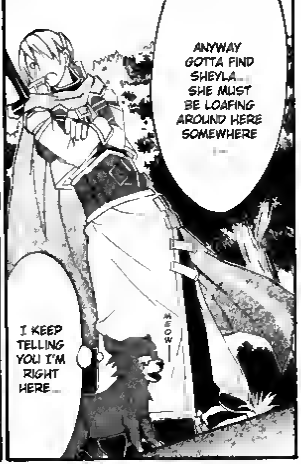
HELL!!!
ドオン
……
SHEYLA!! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, BLOWING STUFF UP LIKE THIS!!
MEOOOW!
ALRIGHT! TRY AGAIN!! WE'LL KEEP AT IT AS LONG AS IT TAKES FOR YOU TO PULL IT OFF!!
UH... UUUUUUM... SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OTHER PARTY. SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OTHER PARTY.
NYAAA!
HEAL!!

SHEYLA DID IT WORK OUT, THIS TIME?
NO...
THE POLLEN FROM THESE FLOWERS, MAYBE...?
ACHOO!!
WHERE ARE YOU!?! SHEYLA, SHOW YOURSELF! COME OUT NOW, AND I'LL LET IT SLIDE!
YOU NEED TO SHOW UP NOW! WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOMETHING YOU LIKE FOR DINNER!!
THE DOLT SHE THOUGHT SHE COULDN'T MANAGE IT, SO SHE BAILED ON ME...!!

HELLOOOO! SHEEEEYLAAAA!
I'VE BEEN A BIT TOO STRICT, PERHAPS...
SHE'S NOT SHOWING UP... SHE ALWAYS DOES WHEN I MENTION THIS, USUALLY...
RUSTLE,
.....
I'M RIGHT HERE. I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY OR ANYTHING.
MEOOOW MEOOW MEOW!! MEOOWW!
MEOW!
HERO.
A... A CAT?! DID I TURN INTO A CAT?!
CO... COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY DOES EVERY-THING LOOK SO MUCH TALLE...?
I WANNA HAVE MY FAVORITE DISH FOR DINNER, YOU HEAR ME!!
MEOW
GRRRR
MEOW
AH WHY IS HE IGNORING ME?
WHY CAN'T I PRODUCE ANY SOUND OUTSIDE MEWING?!
MEOW?!
EH? I CAN'T SPEAK?

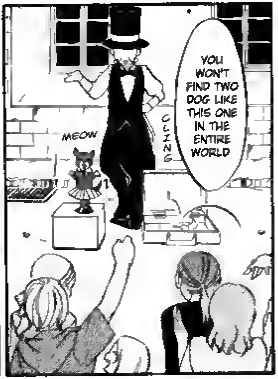
MEOW...
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE A DOG, AREN'T YOU, SO WHY ARE YOU MEWING?
WHUUUUT?!!
MSOOOOOWWW?!
YOU DON'T HAVE A COLLAR ARE YOU A STRAY?
A CHIHUAHUA, MAYBE?
MEOW
SE
SERI-OUSLY ?!
MEOW
NO, I'M NOT. I AM SHEYLA YOU DO UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING, RIGHT? LOOK BLACK HAIR, BLACK EYES NO MATTER HOW YOU CUT IT, I'M STILL SHEYLA!!
MEOW!
MEOW!
GUESS IT DOESN'T LIKE ME MUCH.
MEOW! MEOW! MEOW!
!
HERE GIMME PAW
TAP!
IS THAT WHAT YOU MEANT ?
GRUMP
MEOW!!!
WRONG!!

AM I GONNA SPEND MY ENTIRE LIFE LIKE THIS, UNABLE TO TURN BACK TO NORMAL?!
UH?!


ANYWAY GOTTA FIND SHEYLA... SHE MUST BE LOAFING AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE
I KEEP TELLING YOU I'M RIGHT HERE...
MEOW!

THE HERO WOULD GO BAD MOUTHING ME WHAT WITH ACCUSING ME OF RUNNING OFF TO SAY NOTHING OF A DEMON LORD SPENDING HER LIFE AS A MEWING DOG...
HELL NO I DIDN'T HATE THAT.

IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS...!


YOU WON'T FIND TWO DOG LIKE THIS ONE IN THE ENTIRE WORLD
CLING
MEOW

MUST BE BECAUSE OF THE RESTORATION MAGIC.
SO IF I CONJURE RESTORATION MAGIC AGAIN, IT SHOULD FIX EVERYTHING.

IF I DO THE SAME THING AGAIN, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET BACK TO NORMAL.
SETTLE DOWN AND GIVE IT A THOUGHT. THAT'S IT! LET'S THINK ABOUT HOW IT HAPPENED.

GOTTA ADMIT THAT FLIP KNOWS HOW TO MAKE A RUCKUS
HAAA...
SPLAT
MEOW MEOW!
HEAL!!!
I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING OUTSIDE "MEOW".
THAT'S RIGHT...
!?
あ
FLAP
FLAP

A DRAGON ?!
HA
...HAH..!!
OH, CRAP!!!

HERO—

GROOAAAAAAA!
AAAAAAAH!
WHAT'S UP?! WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION ABOUT..?!
IT'S DANGEROUS OUT HERE, MAN! GO TAKE COVER..!!

A DRAGON? NOW THAT'S ODD THEY'RE PRETTY DOCILE AND QUIET AROUND THESE PARTS, USUALLY
THEY DON'T GET ANGRY WITHOUT A GOOD REASON. AS IN, DESTROYING THEIR NESTS, FOR EXAMPLE
DESTROY?! I DIDN'T DESTROY
HA
WELL... I DO REMEMBER SOMETHING...
THERE USED TO BE A TREE AROUND HERE
YOU'RE A HERO, AREN'T YOU? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
I AM SORRY..!!
AAH, DANG WHAT A PAIN IN THE NECK
OH WELL GETTING THEM BACK IN A GOOD MOOD IS NOT ALL THAT DIFFICULT EITHER, SO I'LL WORK OUT SOMETHING YOU GO HIDE OVER THERE, HERO-SAN
THA THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I'M SAVED EVEN FLEEING WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN MUCH OF AN OPTION WITH THAT ONE
MEOW
THAT GUY WAS NICE ENOUGH

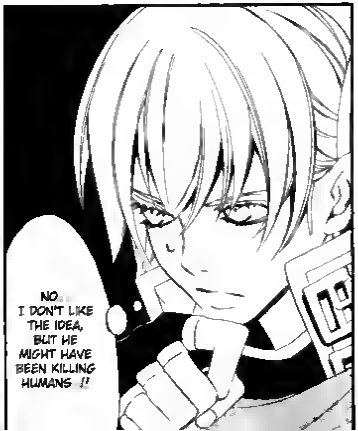
CLANG
NICE..?
HELL
NO..!
WHEN HE SAID HE'D WORK OUT SOMETHING, HE MEANT CUTTING THE BEAST DOWN?!

WHAT.. ARE YOU DOING..?
MEEOOOOOW!!!
AAAAARGH!!!
HERO..!! YOU'RE FORGETTING YOUR SWORD..!!!
HAH

WAS THIS THE AFTER-MATH OF ALL THE MONSTERS HE'D KILLED ?
AND HE'S OFFED THE DRAGON TOO, POSSIBLY

HAA
HAA

HERO I BROUGHT YOU YOUR SWORD


NO. I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA, BUT HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLING HUMANS !!

AAAAAARGH!
ズシ!
PRAISE ME
AAAH. THERE YOU ARE
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, I HAVE
CAN'T GO ABOUT FORGETTING THAT SWORD, NOW, CAN WE..?

HE'S HUNTING US, NOW..!!!
YAAARGH!
NYAAAAAAH!
OH HERO-SAMA

WOOOW. LET'S SHAKE HANDS...
SHE'S RIGHT... THE HERO...
...I'M ..!!
I'M SURRO-UNDED ..?!!

WHERE'S ANGELICA AT, BY THE WAY?!
!!?
ANGELICA, THANK GOD YOU'RE UNHARMED ..!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, UNHARMED?
EH, EXA-SAMA...

MY VOICE WON'T COME OUT.
!!!

Uph!
!!!
!!!
HAA... HAA...
HAA...
NO... NO WAY. EVEN ANGELICA ..!!!
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THIS TOWN? EVERYONE IS WALKING ABOUT, COVERED IN BLOOD.
SNEAKY
MAYBE EVERYBODY'S BEEN GOING AROUND, KILLING MONSTERS... OR PEOPLE.

THIES... THESE HUMANS ARE SCARING MEOWWW!
THIS ENTIRE TOWN'S GOT TO BE SOME SORT OF EVIL ORGANIZATION ..!!
WHY DID THINGS HAVE TO BECOME LIKE THIS ?
WHY AM I EXPERIENCING SUCH FEAR.
AS A DOG, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE FLEEING AND RUNNING ALL AROUND THE PLACE
MEOW—
BECUZ I HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO....
YOU'RE STILL FOLLOWING ME AROUND....

.....!
SINCE YOU'RE A STRAY, WHY DON'T YOU STICK WITH ME UNTIL YOU CAN FIND YOURSELF A MASTER..?
ASSUMING... I CAN'T GO BACK. SHOULD I ACCEPT THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE AND STAY WITH THE HERO..?
MAYBE THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. BEING UNABLE TO BECOME SHEYLA AGAIN IS GONNA BE PAINFUL, BUT SHOULD I REMAIN A DOG FOREVER, NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT ME OF BEING THE DEMON LORD.
NO MORE CARELESSLY PUTTING HIM IN HARM'S WAY EITHER.

LET'S GIVE YOU A NAME, FOR STARTERS
...DOES THAT MEAN THE SINS I'VE COMMITTED AS THE DEMON LORD ARE GONE ..?
BUT...
ALRIGHT. I JUST CAME UP WITH SOMETHING NEAT.

POOCHIE.
HE THINKS I'M A MALE ...?!!
CAME UP WITH SOMETHING NEAT, MY FOOT!! THAT NAME'S LIKE, TOTALLY HACKNEYED!!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, POOCHIE.
THAT'S IT?! YOU'RE SETTLING FOR THIS?!!
...AH...

HE'S... HE'S SHAKING ..?
FOR A HERO, I CAN BE A REAL BLOCKHEAD, EH..?
ALWAYS..?
WHENEVER I FIGHT, I'M ALWAYS TREMBLING LIKE THIS...
EVEN THEN..?

BUT RUNNING AWAY'S NOT AN OPTION
AND THEN...?
CAUSE I'M A HERO, AFTER ALL
YEAH...

I SEE...
TODOM
TODOM:
ガゴン
ぶしゃあっ

.....
DID YOU KILL THAT DRAGON...?
PHEW
.....
HERE
SWISH
!!P
A FRUIT ?
WEIRD SHAPE A DETAIL KINDA STANDS OUT
IT'S RED

THIS IS NEITHER THE TIME, NOR THE PLACE...
TRY IT. TASTY, ISN'T IT?
THE SOLE PROBLEM IS, YOU CAN GET REALLY, REALLY DIRTY WHILE EATING IT
LOOKS A LOT LIKE BLOOD, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHOA?!
GIMME
TU-DUN

AND I'VE MADE A BUSINESS OF SELLING THEM
DRAGONS LOVE IT AS WELL, SO IT GETS THEM BACK IN GOOD SPIRITS PRETTY FAST
THERE YOU GO!
HE DIDN'T KILL ANYONE... SO ANGELICA...
.....
WHY

AAAAAAAAAH!
I'VE BEEN EMBARRASSING MYSELF ALL THIS TIME!!!
ROLL ROLL
I'M THICK-HEADED, COWARDLY, UNABLE TO MANAGE ANYTHING ON MY OWN...
RUNNING ABOUT NOT EVEN STOPPING A MOMENT TO THINK
YOU AREN'T.
AAH HOW HOPELESS CAN I GET?
TOTALLY PATHETIC...

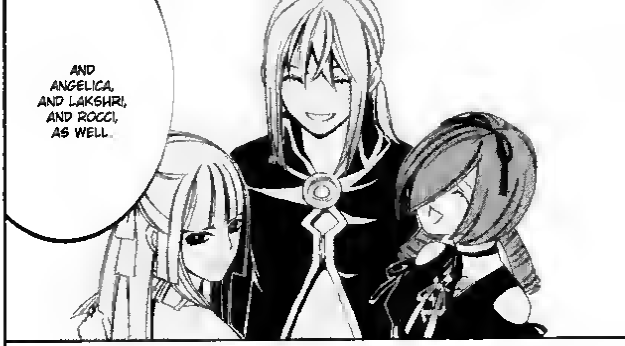
NO. THAT'S NOT TRUE. YOU'RE REALLY, REALLY COOL.
WOOOF
IS THAT AN ENCOURAGEMENT? THANK YOU...
I NEVER BUMPED INTO HIM, DESPITE RUNNING ALL ABOUT TOWN AS IF MY LIFE DEPENDED ON IT.
VERY WELL, I REALLY GOTTA GO FIND SHEYLA, NOW...
OH, CRAP!
GUESS I'D NEVER HAVE FOUND OUT IF I HADN'T BEEN UNDER THIS FORM...
YOU ALWAYS KEEP FIGHTING, DESPITE THOSE FEELINGS, AND THE CONSTANT TREMBLING...

ACHOO!!
ふわ
ぷる
HOW DO I GET BACK TO NORMAL? HOW DO I GET BACK TO NORMAL ..?!!
ぽわわ～。
I... I'M MYSELF AGAIN?!!
SHEYLA WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN..?
THANK GOOD-NESS-MEOW!!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HA
NO... NOTHING AT ALL- MEOW
I CAN'T EXACTLY TELL HIM I'VE BEEN TURNED INTO A MEWING DOG...
EVEN IF DO HAVE A HABIT OF MEWING ROUTINELY!!
BY THE SAME TOKEN, THE HERO CERTAINLY HAS SOME THINGS HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO FIND OUT ABOUT...
UH? POOCHIE WAS STILL AROUND A FEW MOMENTS AGO...
ﾚｷ!

THE... THE DOG? WENT ABOUT THAT WAY-MEOW...
MEOW!
MEOW!
FOUND ITSELF A MASTER, PROBABLY-MEOW SOME REALLY NICE PEOPLE TOOK IT ALONG-MEOW
REALLY? GOOD
I WASN'T WRONG ABOUT POOCHIE BEING A DOG
IT WAS ALWAYS MEWING WHICH IS RATHER COUNTER-INTUITIVE
...SUCH A RANDOM, HALF-BAKED TALE AND HE SWALLOWED IT
HE'S A MAJOR SIMPLETON.
AH... THAT'S RIGHT I'M THE ONE WHO DESTROYED IT'S NEST IN THE FIRST PLACE...
HEAL.

SHEYLA... YOU CAN DO IT, NOW...?
I THINK... I UNDERSTAND A BIT...
WHAT SYMPATHIZING IS ABOUT...
THAT WARM FEELING DEEP INSIDE
I OFTEN GET THE SAME THING WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOU..



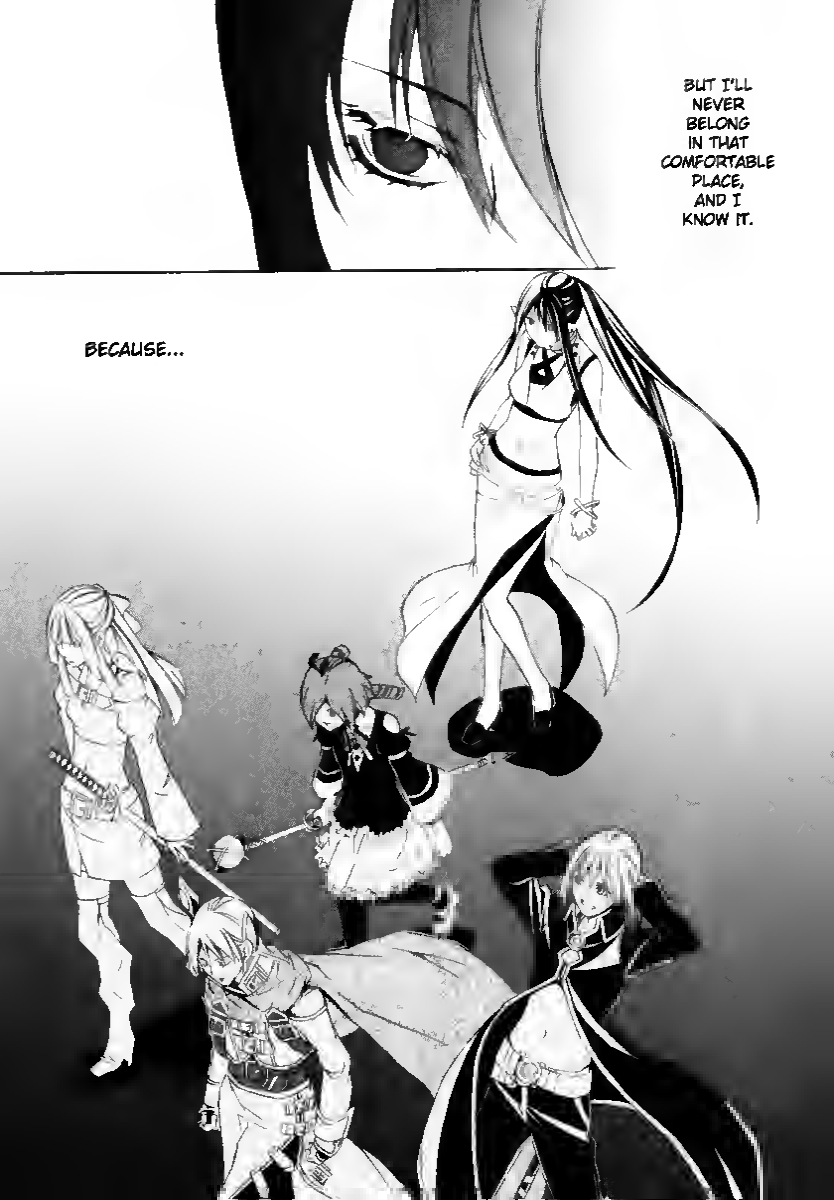
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WONDERING HOW I ENDED UP IN THIS WHOLE MESS.

IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT FOR THE HERO, HOWEVER...

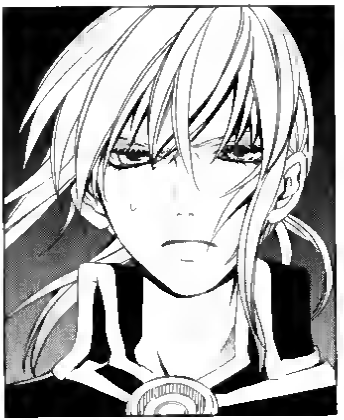
AND WHEN KAGAMI SAID THIS TO ME.
I'M CHOOSING THE COPY MAOU-SAMA'S SIDE
WHEN I TRANSFORMED INTO A DOG
DESPITE ALL THIS, I STILL HAD TO ASSUME THIS SHAPE TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THAT FEELING
A FEELING...
..I WOULD NEVER HAVE KNOWN IF I HADN'T BEEN ON THIS JOURNEY WITH THE HERO.

AH! THERE YOU ARE, EXA-SAMA !!
SURELY THE CHOICE THAT ALLOWED ME TO KNOW SUCH A THING CAN'T BE WRONG.
YOU DID THINK IT WAS BLOOD, DIDN'T YOU? I CRIED OUT TOO, AT FIRST. IT WAS AN EASY MISTAKE TO MAKE.

LAKSHRI AND ROCCI SHOULD BE BACK SOON.
THIS IS A REALLY NICE PLACE TO BE. I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT HERE...


BUT I'LL NEVER BELONG IN THAT COMFORTABLE PLACE, AND I KNOW IT.
BECAUSE...

...NO ONE WOULD EVER SUFFER ME TO REMAIN HERE FOREVER...



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ひっ!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, ROCCI..?!
BROTHER... I CAN'T RUN ANYMORE.
COME ON, GET ON MY BACK, THEN. YOU SHOULD BE FINE THAT WAY, RIGHT..?
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HIDING BEHIND SOMEONE ELSE'S BACK FOR PROTECTION.

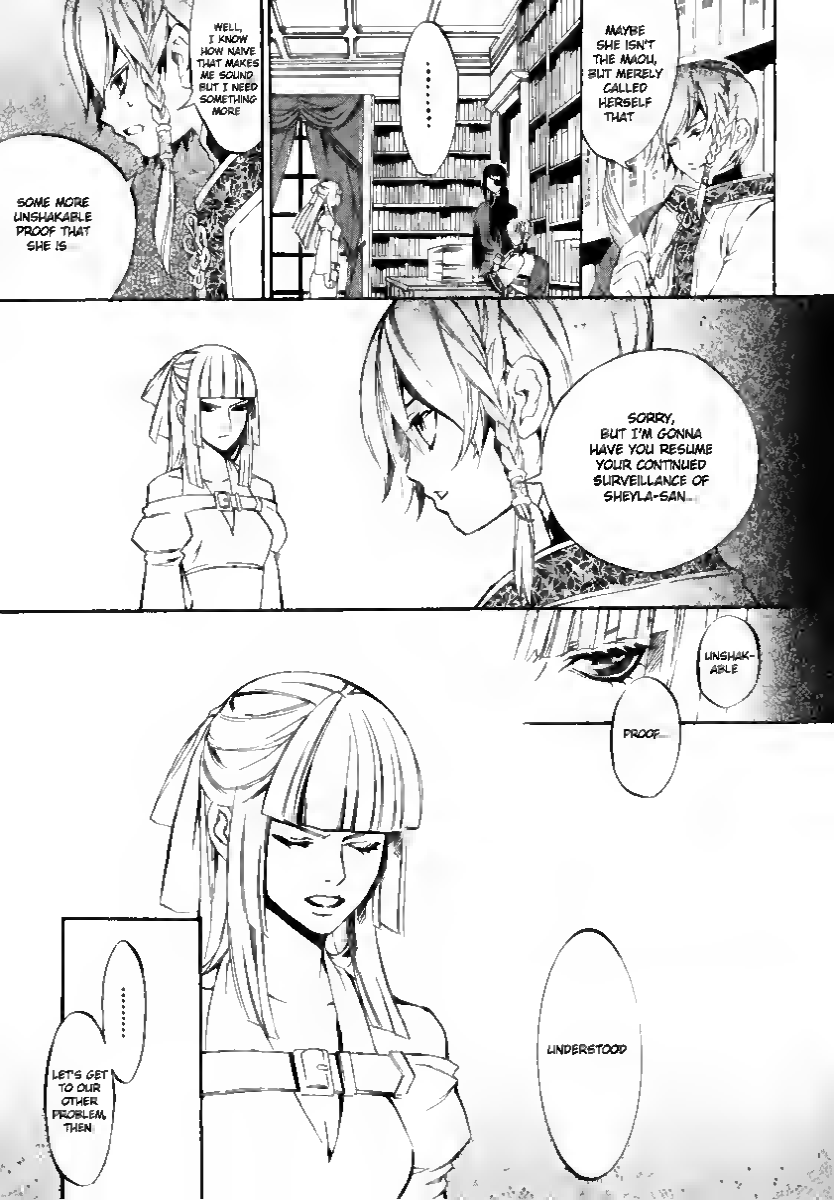
Story.8 Rocci(前編)

ORDERS FROM JUNEAU OBSIDIAS TO ROCCI ARNESTO
FOR ONE THING: CONFIRM WHETHER SHEYLA, WHO TRAVELS WITH THE HERO IS THE DEMON LORD OR JUST AN ORDINARY MONSTER.
AND THEN SHOULD SHEYLA TURN OUT TO BE THE DEMON LORD
...YOU ARE TO ASSASSINATE HER.
THANK YOU FOR GOING THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF TRAVELING ALL THE WAY TO THE CASTLE, ROCCI-SAN

FORGIVE THE LACKLUSTER RECEPTION, BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, I HAVE A MOUNTAIN OF WORK TO DEAL WITH...
IT'S NOTHING
PRINCE JUNEAU

SEEING YOU WELL PLEASES ME MORE THAN YOU KNOW.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE LAST MET, ROCCI-SAN.
THAT SAID
VERY WELL, LET'S GET TO THE MAIN ISSUE
THAT'S IT RUN AWAY
AS SOON AS YOUR WORK IS DONE, YES
I'M A BUSY MAN, BEING YOUR ATTENDANT AND ALL
KEEP THAT HAND MOVING WHILE YOU'RE TALKING, PLEASE
CROW, YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HER IN A WHILE EITHER, HAVE YOU? YOU CAN HAVE A MOMENT BETWEEN SIBLINGS LATER.
WOOPS A RANGED ATTACK
SHE CALLED HERSELF ... THAT ?
.....
YES
SHE CALLED HERSELF THE DEMON LORD WHEN NOBODY WAS LOOKING. WHICH LEAVES NO MORE ROOM FOR DOUBT CONCERNING HER IDENTITY.
...HOW-EVER...
FIRST, LET'S HEAR THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT SHEYLA-SAN.

BUT RATHER THAN KILLING THE HERO AND HIS FRIENDS, SHE'S BEEN SAVING THEM
...WHICH IS ALL RATHER PUZZLING TO ME...
INDEED THAT'S THE PROBLEM, ISN'T IT...
WE HAVE ALL BEEN SAVED BY SHEYLA AT SOME POINT
ACCORDING TO THE TESTIMONIES OF THOSE MONSTERS WE NOW COUNT AMONG OUR ALLIES, THE DEMON LORD DOES MATCH SHEYLA-SAN'S DESCRIPTION
TO SAY NOTHING OF ROCCI-SAN'S REPORT
NORMALLY, WITH THAT MUCH EVIDENCE
IT'D MAKE SENSE TO CONCLUDE THAT THE MAOU AND HER ARE ONE AND THE SAME, AND TO HAVE HER ASSASSINATED
BUT WE STILL WANT TO BELIEVE...
...THAT SHEYLA-SAN IS NOT THE DEMON LORD...


WELL, I KNOW HOW NAIVE THAT MAKES ME SOUND BUT I NEED SOMETHING MORE
SOME MORE UNSHAKABLE PROOF THAT SHE IS...
.....
MAYBE SHE ISN'T THE MAOU, BUT MERELY CALLED HERSELF THAT
SORRY, BUT I'M GONNA HAVE YOU RESUME YOUR CONTINUED SURVEILLANCE OF SHEYLA-SAN...
UNSHAK-ABLE
PROOF...
LET'S GET TO OUR OTHER PROBLEM, THEN
.....
UNDERSTOOD

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT I'VE RECEIVED, 12 TOWNSPEOPLE HAVE BEEN GOING MISSING ONE AFTER ANOTHER , FOR ABOUT A MONTH.
MANY ELEMENTS ABOUT THIS HAD BE WORRIED THAT SOMETHING MIGHT BE GOING ON, SO I'VE HAD THE HERO INVESTIGATE THE CASE.
THE MISSING PEOPLE ARE ADMINISTERED A DRUG THAT TURNS THEM INTO MONSTERS FURTHERMORE THEY'VE BEEN KNOWN TO ATTACK HUMAN BEINGS ...
YES SIR...
AND ROCCI-SAN, ONE OF THE CULPRITS HAPPENS TO BE SOMEBODY YOU KNOW
THE MAN USED TO LIVE IN THE SAME VILLAGE AS MY BROTHER AND I
HE GOES BY THE NAME OF GRAHAM VERENO

OUR VILLAGE SPECIALIZED IN MEDICINE, AND SOLD IT'S DRUGS TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.
ONE MAN AMONG THEM WAS THE BEST WHEN IT CAME TO ANTIDOTES AND COUNTER-POISONS.
AND THAT MAN WAS GRAHAM, I TAKE IT... WHICH MEANS HE MIGHT WELL BE THE ONE WHO CREATED THE DRUG THAT TURNED THOSE PEOPLE INTO MONSTERS.
PROBABLY, YES...
THE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE THUS TRANSFORMED HAVE BEEN CAPTURED THANKS TO THE HERO
BUT FROM TIME TO TIME, THEY RUN AMOK, POSSIBLY OUT OF PAIN
VALENTIN HAS BEEN SENT TO CALL UPON A SKILLED PHYSICIAN
BUT CAN WE REALLY EXPECT HIM TO CURE THEM. ?
I ALSO HEARD ABOUT A HUMAN-TURNED-MONSTER ELUDING CAPTURE. IN ADDITION, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE'VE CAUGHT DOESN'T QUITE MATCH WITH THAT OF THE DISAPPEARANCES
WE'D BE WELL-ADVISED TO CONSIDER THERE MIGHT BE MORE OF THEM
THE MONSTERS MIGHT BE PLOTTING TO USE THOSE PEOPLE FOR GOD KNOWS WHAT REASON
THING IS, I DON'T UNDERSTAND MUCH OF WHAT'S GOING ON

THE MONSTERS PROBABLY SUBMITTED GRAHAM BY FORCE WE NEED TO BREAK HIM OUT.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SETTLE THIS MATTER OTHERWISE
I WANT HIM FOUND IMMEDIATELY
.....
ABOUT THAT, MY PRINCE
I THINK I'LL BE HEADING TOWARDS THE VILLAGE
IS THAT SO? WELL, THAT WOULDN'T HURT
MAYBE I CAN GRASP SOME CLUES ABOUT THE MAN THAT WAY

ROCCI... DO YOU INTEND TO GO THERE BY YOURSELF?
HE'S RIGHT. YOU CAN TAKE SOME MEN WITH YOU.
NO, THANK YOU. I'LL HAVE AN EASIER TIME OPERATING ON MY OWN.
AND I LIVED FROM THAT VILLAGE, ORIGINALLY. IT CAN'T BE ALL THAT DANGEROUS...
NOT HAPPENING.
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO GO THERE ON YOUR OWN.
?
?
.....
tsk

D'OH...
I'M BUSTED...
YOU PLAN TO SPEND THE TIME I'LL BE GONE DAWDLING
THAT'S NOT AN OPTION EITHER.
HERE'S AN IDEA. YOU MAY TAKE CROW ALONG WITH YOU.
YOU CAN'T SAY YOUR BROTHER IS NOT WORRIED ABOUT YOU, NOW CAN YOU?
I'M GONNA TAKE MY LEAVE, NOW
SINCE IT'S GONNA TAKE SOME TIME, APPARENTLY.
SOUNDS EVEN STRICTER THAN CROW HIMSELF
IT'S GONNA COME TO THAT...?
HE'S GONNA LOOK OVER YOU WITH THAT GLACIAL STARE OF HIS
IF I HAVE TO GO, I'LL HAVE RENE REPLACE ME
.....
BLAH BLAH BLAH
パタ
MASTEEEER
A FORCED INTO IT, HE WAS
HIM...?
.....

ALRIGHT I'M IN THE VILLAGE, NOW...
...BUT WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS ...?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT

WHY ISN'T THERE A SINGLE HUMAN SOUL AROUND...?
PEEP

!!?
……?
のそっ
INSIDE MAYBE ?
GRRRRRRR!!!
!!?

UUURGH!
UUURGH
..!!
ラ
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……
WHAT
WAS
THAT?

A MONSTER..?
WITH A WEAKNESS TO DAYLIGHT..?
NEVER MIND THE SNAKES DID THESE GUYS SETTLE IN THE VILLAGE WHEN THE INHABITANTS WENT AWAY..?
GRRRRRR
ON CLOSER INSPECTION, THE TOWN IS CHOKE-FULL OF THEM..
GRRRRRR
I'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS I STAY OUT OF THE SHADOWS I GUESS
KKKKK
.....

WHERE'D THE VILLAGERS VANISH TO?
BUT WHEREVER I GO
ALL I FIND IS THOSE MONSTERS
WHATEVER HAPPENED WHILE I WASN'T THERE...?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GATHER ANY CLUES IN THOSE CONDITIONS?
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT MAN?
WHERE DID HE GO...?

YOU YOU ARE !
GRAHAM VERENO ..!!
WELCOME BACK
ROCCI
WHERE ARE THE VILLAGERS ?!!
THE VILLAGERS? GONE?
ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DISAPPEARANCES TOO?!
YOU JUST GREETED THEM A FEW MOMENTS AGO...

!
MOMENTS AGO?
IT CAN'T BE THAT WAS...
..A VILLAGER..?!
TO TURN HUMAN BEINGS INTO MONSTERS, I NEEDED A LOT OF PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT MY EXPERIMENTS UPON
ぱちぱち
WE HAVE A WINNER

I'VE USED ALL THE VILLAGERS AS MY TEST SUBJECTS.

I WAS ABLE TO CREATE A FINE DRUG THANKS TO THIS
SOMETHING YOU CAN TESTIFY FOR, AM I RIGHT...?
.....!!?
WHAT...
...HAVE YOU DONE...
WHY SO ANGRY?
HUMANS ARE VILE, REVOLTING CREATURES WHO CARES WHATEVER HAPPENS TO THEM...?

I ENJOY PERFECTION.
WHICH MEANS IMPERFECT HUMAN BEINGS HOLD NOTHING OF INTEREST FOR ME.
BUT YOU YOU'RE SPECIAL.
SO COME BACK TO ME.
BACK TO YOU...?
THANKS, BUT NO, THANKS!!

FATHER ?
THIS IS NO WAY TO ADDRESS YOUR FATHER.
HAH
ROCCI VERENO
MY ARM'S NOT EVEN SWELLING..
I'VE JUST BEEN BITTEN BY A SNAKE
DESPITE THIS
THE BEST ANTIDOTE MASTER IN THE WHOLE VILLAGE, MY FOOT..!!
IF I HADN'T FLED THE VILLAGE, I'D SURE AS HELL BE DEAD BY NOW!
SO YOU COULD CREATE THE PERFECT ANTIDOTE OUT OF MY BLOOD SERUM!
YOU'VE KEPT INOCULATING ME WITH POISON! EVERY SINGLE POISON IN EXISTENCE..!

YET YOU STILL DARE CALL YOURSELF MY FATHER?!
AND FOR THOSE, YOU'D SACRIFICE EVERYTHING, INCLUDING OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES!
OR EVEN YOUR OWN DAUGHTER ..!!
THE ONLY THINGS YOU CARE ABOUT ARE YOUR OWN RESEARCH AND YOUR ANTIDOTES!
I WAVE NO PARENTS
I DID HAVE A MOTHER, BUT SHE DIED WHEN I WAS STILL A CHILD

TRUTH BE TOLD I CONSIDERED CAPTURING YOU IF I EVER FOUND YOU, JUST LIKE THE PRINCE SAID
BUT OUR ENCOUNTER TODAY HAS TAUGHT ME ONE THING.
BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT KNOW OF A WAY TO CURE THOSE PEOPLE.
YOU CAN'T HEAL THEM BETTER YET. YOU DON'T EVEN WANT TO
INDEED. WHY WOULD I HAVE TO ?
NO ONE CAN CAPTURE ME EVEN IF THEY COULD, I HAVE NO INTENTION TO COOPERATE I'LL JUST RUN AWAY AS MANY TIMES AS NEEDED
AND I'LL PLUNGE THE WORLD IN FEAR AND DREAD

HUMANITY CAN BE EXTERMINATED, FOR ALL I CARE
YOU HAVE BROUGHT HURT TO COUNTLESS PEOPLE.
AND RATHER THAN REFLECTING UPON YOUR DEEDS, YOU WOULD CAUSE EVEN MORE PAIN AND SUFFERING
YOU MUST...

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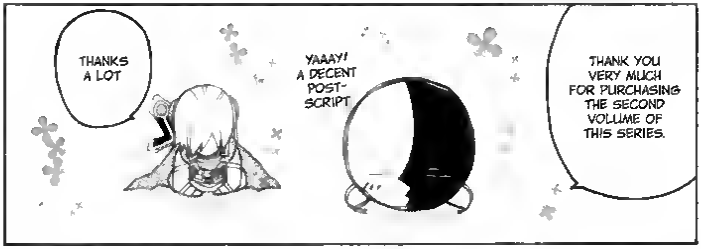
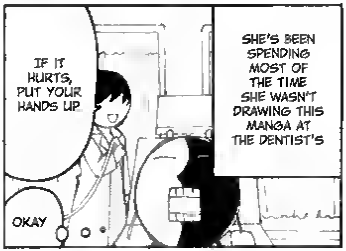
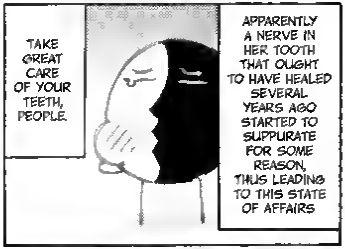
POSTSCRIPT







創田　ノゾ様
相模原　暁様
仲岸　チャコ様
菊月　蓮様
ジョン様
担当様

そして　読者の皆様

本当にありがとうございます

2

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